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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/622,436	07/18/2003	Josef Ruppert	8178	4973

7590 06/21/2006

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EXAMINER

ABDELWAHED, ALI F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3722

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/622,436

Applicant(s)

RUPPERT, JOSEF

Examiner

Ali Abdelwahed

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11, 19, 20 and 22-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11, 19, 20 and 22-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The indicated allowability of claims 9-11, 19, 20, and 22-26 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Okino et al. and Hougen. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claimed limitations of "said chip groove has an even or an arched base" and "said chip groove has flanks of unequal height" are not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 9-11, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 11347820 A to Okino et al.

Okino et al. discloses a multiple-stage drilling tool (1A) with a chip groove (8A) for drilling different bit diameters as required with the diameters increasing successively from stage to stage (see fig.1). A first bit stage (5) being a core bit with cutters (3) running continuously from the inside to the outside (see figs.1-4), at least one second bit stage arranged above it in the form of a step (see figs.1, 2), and U-shaped notches (6AA) between two heels 3A (see fig. 2). All the bit stages have at least one common chip groove with at least one rounded flank of unequal height (see fig. 2), and with an even or arched base (see figs. 1, 2, 5). A hole is capable of be drilled by the core bit leaving an uncut cylinder-shaped drilling core (see fig. 3). The outer cutter (4) from the second bit stage is at an angle of between 0 and 45 degrees to an imaginary horizontal plane (see figs.1, 2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20 and 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okino et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,609,056 to Hougen.

Okino et al. discloses the claimed invention except for the first bit stage having inner cutters including a clearance angle between 5 and 10 degrees, and outer cutters including a clearance angle between 6 and 15 degrees or less than or equal to 10 degrees. However, Hougen teaches a drilling tool (12) comprising inner cutters (38) including a clearance angle (c) between 5 and 10 degrees (see column 3, line 4), and outer cutters (40) including a clearance angle (d) between 6 and 15 degrees (see column 3, lines 5-6) or less than or equal to 10 degrees. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the tool of Okino et al., in view of Hougen, such that it would provide the tool of Okino et al. with inner cutters including a clearance angle between 5 and 10 degrees, and outer cutters including a clearance angle between 6 and 15 degrees or less than or equal to 10 degrees for the purpose of aiding the flow of the chips in the flutes and provide clearance with the workpiece in order to prevent the cutter from dragging on the bottom of the hole.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 and 22-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ali Abdelwahed whose telephone number is (571) 272-4417. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica S. Carter can be reached on (571) 272-4475.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the examiner or the examiner's supervisor.

AA

06/13/2006


MONICA CARTER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER